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(MORNING, EVENING, AND SUNDAY)
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WASHINGTON, D. C., FEBRUARY 20, 1896.



ANOTHER BOASTFUL

CLAIM EXPOSED.

The Star Cannot Verify Its Statement, and Is Therefore a Silly Braggart.

Yesterday the Star stated that its circulation reached 82½ per cent of all the occupied houses in Washington, which is a claim as false as it is absurd and as absurd as anything lacking sense could possibly be. At the time of the publication of the delinquent tax list for 1894 it was estimated at the District Building that there were 50,000 occupied houses in the city of Washington. If the entire circulation of the Star were delivered to occupied houses it would require a daily average of 41,250 to place a single copy in 82½ per cent of the number of houses on record in the Commissioners' office, and as the Star only claims in its last sworn statement a daily average circulation of 31,547 it is difficult to see how it can make that number go around.

To make the falsity of the Star's boastful claim still more apparent it should be remembered that nearly one-half the circulation of every daily newspaper is absorbed by street and news-stand sales, and suburban and mail and exchange lists, a large proportion of which never enters the homes of resident citizens. But admitting that 20,000 of the Star's circulation reaches the occupied houses of Washington, it will be seen that its boast must be cut in twain to stand the test of investigation.

The truth is that The Times has the largest bona-fide circulation in Washington. A comparison of its sworn statement with that of the Star verifies this assertion, and an inquiry among the people will still further prove its correctness. There was a time when the Star could ride rough shod over the public and insolently claim everything in sight, but fortunately for the good of Washington that day is no longer here. Perhaps our evening contemporary is beginning to realize that fact.

THE TIMES has the largest circulation of any daily paper in the District of Columbia.

It is a fearless advocate of true reform, has a constituency not reached by any other paper, and enters the homes of the best purchasing class of citizens in all parts of the District.

THE TIMES will continue to champion right and condemn wrong without fear or favor, and relentlessly pursue and expose crime and corruption wherever found.

Last week's average circulation, per day..... 36,840
Same week last year..... 15,401
Daily gain..... 23,439

The circulation of THE TIMES for the week ended February 16, 1896, was as follows:
Monday, February 10..... 38,981
Tuesday, February 11..... 44,038
Wednesday, February 12..... 37,997
Thursday, February 13..... 36,477
Friday, February 14..... 38,522
Saturday, February 15..... 36,007
Sunday, February 16..... 23,003

I solemnly swear that the above is a correct statement of the daily circulation of THE WASHINGTON TIMES for the week ended February 6, 1896, and that all the copies were actually sold or mailed for a valuable consideration and delivered to bona fide purchasers or subscribers; and that none of them were returned or remain in the office undelivered.

J. MILTON YOUNG, Cashier.
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 17th day of February, A. D. 1896.
ERNEST C. THOMPSON,
Notary Public.

Don't Forget the Cheaper Gas Bill.

While it is a fact that the fight for cheaper gas is practically won, friends of that measure should not forget that there is such a thing as overconfidence, and that while we are congratulating ourselves on the economy to be derived, the lobbyists of the gas company may defeat the bill now before Congress. Should the measure be reported by the District Committee it will pass both houses like wildfire, inasmuch as it has been indorsed by the Commissioners and the general public, but the thing now to be done is to secure some kind of a report from the committees.

It is generally believed that Congress will adjourn before the 1st of June. The Senate is in a deadlock over the silver question, and can act on no measure except the appropriation bills and such as refer to minor legislation.

It is therefore necessary to urge all District bills as rapidly as possible, and among the first to be considered is the one relating to cheaper gas. There has been too much good work done to bring about that much-needed reform to sacrifice it now through want of attention.

How About the "Communism of Pelf?"

The announcement of the attorney general of New York that the anti-trust law of that State does not provide a way to investigate the affairs of trusts organized in other States, indicates clearly that if those obnoxious combines are to be abolished it must be by national legislation. It has never yet been demonstrated that the present anti-trust law is imperative for the reason that it has not been given a satisfactory test in the United States courts. In truth, to all outward appearances, the Attorney General's office is in a lull. Van Wyck state of desuetude as far as the prosecution of trusts is concerned. If the gentleman in charge of its affairs is satisfied the law cannot be enforced let him inform Congress in reply to the inquiry of that body, and perhaps a more effective measure can then be enacted.

The fact is becoming more apparent as time passes that this government cannot effectively protect the public against the encroachments of capital without centralizing its legislative efforts. The democratic policy of depending on State laws to restrict and keep within bounds the power of combines has long since proved defective, and the question will never be settled until Congress not only enacts prohibitive measures, but also compels government officials to enforce them.

It may be possible that this Administration has good reason for refusing to carry out the pledges of the Democratic party in reference to trusts, and if so this should be made public in some other way than by maintaining an attitude of contemptuous silence. The declarations of President Cleveland on this question are too fresh in the minds of the people to allow such a sinister disregard of public interests to pass unnoticed, and if he still believes that "communism of pelf" is "destructive to public prosperity" let him make it known by an order to General Harmon to proceed against trusts without fear or favor.

Revolution of the Daughters.

The women gathered in Washington from all parts of the Union, upon patriotic purposes intent, and represent a female constituency of twelve thousand souls, can deserve their appellation of Daughters of the Revolution and the ever lasting blessings of poor, down-trodden man at one and the same time and in more ways than one, if they but choose. It is in their power to do a great and noble work, one that is in the interest of economy and of goodness and the consequences of which will be far-reaching beyond calculation. They can start upon a mission the glory of which will be surpassed by none save that of the cause from which they derive their name.

Some sacrifices, of course, will be necessary. No great reform movement, no far-reaching revolution was ever consummated without them. These sacrifices will be personal as well as general, and may cause the Daughters hours of anguish. But when once the great end is achieved, when great altitudes are no more, great shall be their reward. They will forevermore be able to revel in the consciousness of having done something that will confer a precious boon upon one-half of the human race. In the history of the women of the country the page devoted to them will be bright with the luster of a gracious deed.

Let the Daughters of the Revolution start the ball a-rolling that will crush out of existence—billionaires and their henchmen.

Filter Our Water Supply.

Unless the people of the District of Columbia are to be condemned to drink dirty and impure water about six months in the year until time shall be no more, Congress ought to make the necessary appropriation to provide some system of filtration. Whether it is the natural filter recommended by Col. Elliot in his report of 1894, or something similar to the method which Capt. Galliard has found to be effective, or something different from either, matters little, but all experts are agreed upon the fact that there ought to be some filter. They all concur that the settling of the particles held in solution by means of standing in reservoirs is entirely too slow a process to serve the purposes of a city like Washington.

It is unnecessary to discuss the question of cost, because both the original estimate and the item of maintenance are comparatively insignificant, when one considers the benefits that would be conferred upon the people of the District. The chief considerations involve the health and comfort of the inhabitants. As to these nobody can be in doubt who will take the trouble to read the article contained in the news columns of this issue. Apart from this, however, every resident of Washington has a sufficient personal experience every year to convince him that he is entitled to relief.

Whenever there are heavy rains along the valley of the Potomac—and they are not infrequently so—the people of the District are wise to blame for he has at the best but a very limited force to do the work of his department. It is only fair to him, as it is important to the sanitary interests of the people, that his request for the milk inspectors should be complied with.

It would almost seem to be useless to reiterate here what has been so often said about the importance of a pure milk supply. In impure milk lurk typhoid fever and many other diseases. It is the slaughterer of the innocents. The impurity of the article is not brought about necessarily by the admixture of chalk and water; that diluted compound, while not specially noxious to the infantile stomach, is not instantly fatal. Far more dangerous are the uncleanness and carelessness which prevail on some dairy farms, the washing of the cans with water that may be contaminated with disease germs or other impurities, and some other forms of more or less criminal negligence in handling the milk. It is against these that the efforts of the inspectors desired by Dr. Woodward are to be directed, and they cannot be given him any too soon.

Civil Marriages in the District.

Before the bill, now under discussion in the Senate, which relates to marriages in the District becomes a law it should have a section legalizing civil marriages here. As in the majority of the States, justices of courts, and even justices of the peace, should have authority to join two people in matrimony, proper records of such transactions, of course, to be kept, just as is the case at present with marriages solemnized by clergymen.

A great many people object to being married by ministers. They look upon marriage as a civil contract, to be entered into by judicial procedure, just as it is dissolved by such. They do not believe that the happiness of husband or wife is promoted by the ceremonial of the church, and when children are born they scorn the

rite of baptism or confirmation. Now, these people may be all wrong, and their materialistic views may shock some of us, but they are entitled to them and to have the opportunity to live up to them.

Civil marriage would be a boon to the poor people, for whom the cost of a license and the subsequent fee of the preacher constitute a heavy outlay. The smallest possible fee, of course, should only be chargeable by a judicial officer empowered to marry people, so that no objection could be made by any one to keep out of the initial expense. Upon the grounds of justice, expediency and logic, civil marriage is advisable, and the District of Columbia should be without it no longer.

HEARD BY THE LOUNGER?

WASHINGTON is being "done up" by a party of tourists from central New York. They visited the Capitol yesterday, and for a while the guides were kept busy answering questions. "I understand now why Senator Hill and Secretary Lamont are called silent men," said one of the official pilots, after the guests had departed. "Their constituents do so much talking they are not given a chance to say a word, and have acquired the art of holding their tongue through force of circumstances."

THE great coal strike in the Potomac region last year, which gave Gov. O'Ferrill an opportunity of ordering out State troops and keeping the disturbed district under military surveillance for two or three months, is fair to be repeated this spring, only on a greater scale, remarked a prominent coal operator of that region at the Metropolitan last night.

The men have been preparing for this event all winter. They are better organized now than they were before, and they are better equipped.

"It was during the great strike last year that Detective Baldwin and his men were accused of assaulting a crowd of Hungarians, and some of them were made to pay a fine of \$200 each, I believe.

There is a good story on Baldwin that has been going into print. During the World's Fair this gentleman, together with two or three of his men, went out to Chicago, determined to do the whole show in three days. It came nearer costing them three months, however. While in the Arabian village one of the parties recognized among the "natives" the plains on exhibition there two or three East Virginia cowboys, with whom he was well acquainted. Of course, they were all fixed up and looked like real Arabs. The detectives accused them of being impostors. In an instant the whole place was in an uproar, the "natives" threatening to inflict bodily harm on the intruders. As they were armed with long spears, they could undoubtedly have carried out their threat had Baldwin poured oil upon the troubled waters. He pacified the angry men and got his party away as quickly as possible."

SERIOUSLY THOUGHT TO BE HUMOROUS

There never was a man so great, but there was born a greater; There never was so sad a traitor, but there was found a traitor.

There never was a great debater, Without a great debater; There never was a potentate, Without a potentate.

Never Still Long Enough to Be Shaved. "Yes," said the woman-hater cheerfully, "I have often noticed how nature adapts herself to her environments."

An Argument for Silver. Chemist—Yes, gold is the most ductile of the metals, and can be drawn out into the thinnest of wires.

Alas! the Equivocation of Slang. Pastor—Will you be a faithful wife to this man, in season and out of season, discharging all the duties of the household to the best of your ability?

Bushing Blade—I will not. Bridgeman (six months later)—Seems to me it's about time for you to commence your knitting, by the looks of these socks.

The Usual Thing Now. "In Balaam's time when an ass spoke it was considered very remarkable."

"Well," "I was just thinking how the customs have changed since then."

He Might Go Off. Mabel—"I don't like the way he cocks his eye at everybody."

May—No, then it's awfully dangerous, too. Mabel—Why? May—Because he's always "loaded."

A Delinquent's Epitaph. He's paid the common debt to nature; Poor Jimmie is no more. Which was the first, we beg to state here, He never paid before.

In Algebra Class. Bright pupil (reading problem)—Cathode rays to the second power, multiplied by—Teacher (interrupting)—What are you saying? The problem begins, "Raise x to the second power."

Bright pupil—That's what I said—cathode rays—same thing.

WOMEN'S WAR OF WORDS

Babel of Tongues at the Continental Congress.

MRS. STEVENSON IS CHOSEN

She Will Be the President General in Place of Mrs. Foster—Stormy Scene Preceding and During the Election. All Kinds of Rackets Worked by the Rebellious Daughters.

The election of officers formed the interesting business of the Daughters of the American Revolution at this morning's session of their annual congress. The public and reporters were admitted to the meeting.

The audience was large and filled every seat of the handsomely decorated bakery. The faces of half a dozen men might be counted, peering timorously out from the sea of gray sleeves, tri-colored badges and elaborate bonnets.

Mrs. Dr. Bullock for president. At its conclusion Mrs. Foster yielded the chair to Mrs. Lockwood.

The order of the day was proceeded with, and the confusion that broke out spasmodically thereafter was only to be compared, as one delegate said, to that at the country store, just over.

Mrs. Hart, in the rear of the church, presented two resolutions relating to the election of vice presidents, and both were passed before half a score of ladies arose to protest that the order of business be with the election of president.

"We'll first vote for president," announced Mrs. Lockwood. "Nominations are now in order."

Mrs. De B. Randolph Keim, of Connecticut, was granted the floor, and in a short set speech placed in nomination the name of Mrs. Letitia Green Stevenson, wife of the Vice President, and second president of the organization.

EVERYONE IN HER FAVOR. The house went into a mild panic in its desire to second the nomination. Cries of "Madam President, I second the nomination" came from a hundred feminine voices, more or less in keeping with the definition. Hands went up, handkerchiefs flew into the air, and finally two or three ladies hurried down the aisle to claim recognition.

Finally Mrs. Morgan, a pretty and charming Georgia lady, was given the first honor of a formal second.

While she was speaking Mrs. Donald McLean, the pride of the Empire State delegation, had ascended the platform to be recognized next.

By the time Mrs. Morgan had finished her remarks a lady had excitedly stepped from the rear of the church down one of the main aisles and claimed for the next place in the public eye. It was Mrs. Pope of Kentucky.

"I am a cousin of Mrs. Stevenson," said she. "I spoke first, and think I should be recorded as the first second of the motion."

Mrs. McLean remained unperturbed upon the platform and went on to second Mrs. Stevenson's nomination. Mrs. Pope then offered her second.

Mrs. McLean, who had meantime returned to the floor, now moved that the nomination be made unanimous.

"I object," said Miss Mary Desha of this city. "Mrs. Desha is a sister-in-law of Representative Breckinridge. She is understood to be vigorously opposed to the organization's ex-president general."

"Put it to vote," said Mrs. McLean. MISS DESHA'S OBJECTION.

"You can't," announced Miss Desha. "I am of the minority, and Roberts' Rules of Order give the minority, even if there is only one, the right to prevent that."

The lady demonstrated that by vigorously waving a volume of the rules in her hand above her head.

"Then, Madam President, I move that the nominations be now closed," said the pleading and invincible Mrs. McLean.

A vote was taken, and, strangely enough, the motion was unanimously carried. Nevertheless, the rules required that the vote must be taken by ballot, and there was no way out of it. Miss Washington, Mrs. Tilton, Mrs. Denison, and Mrs. Draper were appointed tellers.

It was suggested that the roll had not yet been called, and Mrs. Robertson Buchanan, recording secretary-general, began the onerous duty that consumed over half an hour's time.

"We can't hear," came from many parts of the audience room.

"Shut up and sit down and you can," answered the chair.

The three first delegates from the State of Washington.

"We ought to be proud of that," said the secretary.

The roll called developed the presence of 243 delegates, making 122 necessary for a choice.

FEARED FOR THE BALLOTS. The fear that discrepancy might follow in the carrying out of the ballot seemed uppermost in the minds of many. This probably caused Mrs. Witteneyer to suggest that as additional delegates came to the floor the State registers announce the fact to the secretary.

Conjugal anger stamped the congress. Mrs. Lockwood fairly rapped dents in the table before her in efforts to restore order, but to the evident amusement of the galleries. Everybody talked, until somewhat as if some tried to sing. The pretty ushers began to look as though they had lost their friends and were finding it hard to keep the blush and bloom that marked their faces when the convention began three days ago.

The tellers went out to count the votes, and to save time it was decided to go on with the balloting for other officers. The office of first vice president general was created, first by a long discussion followed as to whether this officer should be elected first or whether they should first vote for the vice president in charge of the organization. It was decided to choose the latter first.

Mrs. Philip Hiebhorst was nominated for the office by the first vice president in charge of organization, Mrs. Charles Sweet Johnson. Almost thirty States showed a desire to second the nomination. Mrs. Gertrude Van Cortlandt Hamilton's name was presented by Mrs. McLean.

The presidential vote was here announced. There were 196 ballots cast, as follows: Mrs. Stevenson, 182; Mrs. John W. Foster, the retiring president-general, 8; Mrs. James H. Walker, 1; blanks, 8; Mrs. Stevenson was declared elected.

The ladies were unwilling that the vote as given should go down in the minutes, and a resolution was passed calling the remaining votes "scattered."

MRS. STEVENSON'S WISH. Nominations for the first vice president-general were begun. Mrs. Rose F. Brackett of Washington was presented for the place by Mrs. Dickinson. "I understand that Mrs. Stevenson has said that she would like to see Mrs. Brackett in the position," said Mrs. Dickinson.

Other names were presented. Mrs. McLean of New York and Mrs. Hogg of Pennsylvania, both declining.

The nominations then went on. Mrs. McCarthy of Pennsylvania demanded the floor.

"Did I understand," said she, "that Mrs. Stevenson has expressed a choice of her

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All our Winter weight Suits, Overcoats and Pants have been dropped way below regular prices.

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assistants before she was elected. That was surely never heard of before.

The incident was quickly smoothed over. The voice of Mrs. Shippen was finally heard in the hub of confusion that followed.

"I circulated that report," she said. "I had the information and gave it away. I didn't know it was not the thing."

Her explanation was lost in a wave of laughter.

"I demand recognition," said a charming lady, who marched down the center aisle, "and I'll get it, too, by George."

The lady was Mrs. Allen of Massachusetts, and she wanted to see another name put on the list before the vote. There wasn't, though, and Mrs. Brackett's name went down alone to be voted upon by the entire meeting.

At this point Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. McLean and Mrs. Sherman were appointed a committee to escort the new president general-elect, who had meanwhile entered the church, to the platform.

Mrs. Stevenson, clad in the mourning that has characterized her costumes since the death of her daughter, stepped to the platform and read a carefully prepared and typewritten acknowledgment of the honor bestowed upon her. Mrs. Foster, the retiring president general, stood beside her while she read.

Mrs. Carlisle, wife of the Secretary of the Treasury, came to see her friend installed in office.

WILL STUDY THE ESKIMOS. Expedition Going From Philadelphia to the Interior of Labrador.

Philadelphia, Feb. 20.—An expedition bound for the interior of Labrador will leave Philadelphia in June for the purpose of studying the Eskimos and collecting specimens of the flora and fauna of that region.

G. H. Perkins of the class of '95, University of Pennsylvania, will be the commander, and the remainder of the party will consist of four students of zoology, geology, botany, and archaeology, and a number of college students and others.

Prof. Frank Russell, curator of the University of Iowa, accompanies the expedition as archaeologist.

The trip from St. Johns, N. F., to Labrador will be made in the ship Kite. At St. Johns the Philadelphia party will be joined by ten scientists sent out to explore the coast of Esmeralda Island, and also to discover traces of the ancestors of the Greenlanders, who, it is thought, came from that place.

University of Pennsylvania, who is the originator of the expedition, said:

"The party will leave Philadelphia about the middle of June. The ten scientists who will join our party at St. Johns, will be sent out by Dr. C. T. Mendenhall, superintendent of the United States Geological Survey, Gen. A. W. Greely, Baron Von Saurmaajelch, J. A. W. Grip, envoy extraordinary from Germany to Norway and Sweden; J. W. Powell, director United States Geological Survey, and Baron Adolf Eric Nordenskjöld, of the Royal Academy of Science, Sweden.

"These persons have supplied the wherewithal for the researches of the scientists for a period of one year."

Prof. Hite said that the University cruise to India in September would prevent his accompanying the expedition to Labrador.

Wanted—A Wife. The editor of a country paper advertises for a printer who can cook, wash, do sewing, play the piano and receive callers. Must furnish a certificate of good moral character, and if mutually agreeable can hold a position for life. This is one way to advertise for a wife.—Vermilion Freeman.

EPITOME OF THE NEWS IN THE MORNING TIMES.

If you miss any news in the evening edition look in the list below. What you're looking for was probably published in this morning's edition.

ENGLEND WILL ACCEPT IT.—Reported in Caracas that She Will Abide by the Commission.

MUST GO ON RECORD.—Highest Powers to Be Asked to Fight the Division.

BILL NYS IS NEAR DEATH.—Famous Humorist Has Been Stricken with Paralysis.

SAYS MAHER IS ALL READY.—Famous Too, Says He'll Fight for a Kingdom.

URGENT THE TARIFF ISSUE.—National Republican League Sets Forth Campaign Plans.

LOOTED FREIGHT TRAINS.—Wholesale Robbery of Cars Monday at Jackson.

GREENHOG WAS NO LIAR.—Weather Men Sick by Him and Sent Another Cold Wave.

CAUGHT A NOTED CROOK.—Charles H. Spaulding, of Long Criminal Record, Arrested.

SENATE HAS GREAT FUN.—An Amusing Colloquy Between Senators Allen and Call.

HAD TWO BIG SCHEMES.—Ancient Crank Called to See Senator Sherman.

HER APON CAUGHT FIRE.—Adeline Clayton Terribly Burned.

MISS DURE IN A NEW PLAY.—Diamond Robbery Worked by the Fine Italian Hand.

SPRING MEETING ENTRIES.—Washington Jockey Club's Program for Next April.

ORIOLES WERE VICTORIOUS.—They Defeated the Local Hockey Team with Ease.

MAUPIN WILL HEAD TODAY.—Friends of the Measure Approve of His Passage.

MELODY AT THE BIG FAIR.—German Societies Sing Familiar Choruses for the Hebrews.

NOW WAITS UPON LEFT.—Social List Marks the Beginning of the Church Season.

HEARD STATE REPORTS.—Every One Was Satisfactory to the Revolution's Daughters.

PASSED THE ARMY BILL.—House Held a Quiet Session and Did Business.

Goldenberg's, 928 7th St.

Wraps to Go at Cost.

We shall wait no longer. We'll make one grand sweep of the wraps. Every Coat and Cape in stock has been reduced to cost.

\$7, \$8, and \$9 Coats of Bouclé, Beaver, and Novelty Cloths.

\$3.95.

\$10, \$12, and \$14 Coats of the latest styles. Tailor, Kersey, and Novelty Cloths.

\$6.75.

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AMUSEMENTS.

CADEMY—Prices 5, 10, 15 and 25. Potentially Last Appearance and Farewell to the American Stage.

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